REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicants thank the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-38 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6, 12 and 22 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from Claims 1, 6, 12 and 22. Applicant has amended claims 6, 11, 12, 17 and 18. Applicant has canceled claims 16 and 22-38.

Claim Objections

Claims 6-11 and 16-21 are objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has rewritten claim 6 in independent form. Claim 12 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 16.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 103

Claims 1-5, 12-15, 22-29, 31, 33, 35, 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kumar et al. ("Kumar" US Patent 6,356,921) in view of Miller et al. ("Miller": US Patent Application 2004/0080525 A1). Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertions.

Applicant's present invention describes a process of converting a graphical image file to a JPEG file. The present invention takes the information concerning `Hotspots` on the graphical file and generates an appendix to the created JPEG file containing this `Hotspots` information. In this process, the method of the present invention first reads the original length of the JPEG file. The present invention then attaches the appendix containing the `Hotspots` information to the JPEG file. In this way the length of the JPEG file is modified to show the addition of the attached information.

Appliant's present invention also provides a method and system to decode the information in the extended image file. During the decoding of the extended image file, this method first reads the length of the appended file. The next step is to subtract the

number of "n" bytes to find the length of the original image file. Once the knowledge of original image file is obtained, it is possible to get down to the start of the information that had been appended to the original file. The method then decodes the remaining appended extension information.

Applicant's present invention is based on the idea of storing that further information inside the actual image or of storing hyperlinks to further information inside the actual image. If Web browsers such as Microsoft Internet Explorer or Netscape Navigator were enhanced to become capable of executing hotspot information previously stored inside an image file, the distribution of hotspot information for a graphical image would be dramatically simplified.

Kumar and Miller talk about new file formats that need new applications to be using the files, so they are not backwards compatible with existing applications.
Kumar and Miller do not at all use the principles. Kumar describes a single file that contains all information for a complete presentation. Each presentation file contains both data and software for the presentation. It includes both the data and software provided to the user and that retained by the server for the performance of the presentation. The basic building block for a presentation is a frame. The presentation file can contain a file header frame and multiple media frames, and one or more meta data frame. Of the frame types, the file header frame is the only one whose presence is mandatory in the presentation file format. The file header frame identifies the subject matter and contents of the presentation file providing information on the media types and total length of the file. The techniques of the present invention are not taught or suggested by Kumar.

Miller describes a method for labeling the pixels within a selected visual area of at least one image frame containing that visual area from a sequence of image frames stored in memory and operative to be displayed on an interactive display so that a user may subsequently select the selected visual area on a pixel accurate, frame accurate basis. This invention does not mention or discuss any application of this technology to presentations. There is nothing in Miller to suggest the combination of Miller with Kumar.

In view of the above reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that US Patent 6,356,921 (Kumar) does not teach or suggests the methods described in Applicant's present invention. Applicant further submits that it is not obvious to combine Kumar with Miller to produce Applicant's present invention.

Based on the above-stated Applicant believes this reply to be fully responsive to all outstanding issues and place this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darcell Walker
Reg. No. 34,945

9301 Southwest Freeway
Suite 250
Houston, Texas 77074
713-772-1255

January 3, 2005